



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/990,981	12/15/1997	SHO MURAKOSHI	P7156-7043	1932
4372	7590	10/21/2003		
ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN 1050 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20036				
			EXAMINER KANG, PAUL H	
			ART UNIT 2141	PAPER NUMBER 46

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

08/990,981

Applicant(s)

MURAKOSHI ET AL.

Examiner

Paul H Kang

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 57,59,63,65,66,68,72,73 and 75-78 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 57,59,63,65,66,68,72,73 and 75-78 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 2141

1. Claims 1-56, 58, 60-62, 64, 67, 69-71 and 74 have been previously cancelled. Claims 57, 59, 63, 65-66, 68, 72-73 and 75-78 are pending.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 57, 59, 63, 66, 68, 72, 73 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toh et al., US Pat. No. 6,128,652 in view of Fan et al., US Pat. No. 6,498,775 B1.

4. As to claims 57, 66, 68 and 75, Toh teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Toh teaches an information acquisition apparatus, an information recording medium, and an information acquisition method, for communicating with at least one information server provided with related information related to an information recording medium through a communication network, such as the internet, comprising:

reading means... for... reading of information stored in said... information recording medium;

address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information... said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and

Art Unit: 2141

corresponding to said information recording medium (Toh, col. 1, line 14 – col. 2, line 27 and col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18); and

related-information acquisition means for accessing said homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition means so that said related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server (Toh, col. 1, line 14 – col. 2, line 27 and col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18).

However, although Toh teaches seamless and transparent connection to remote data sources for automatic updating without the user's awareness (see Toh, col. 1, lines 41-63), Toh does not explicitly teach that the information retrieval from the medium by the reading means and the address-information acquisition means is automatically initiated upon the information recording medium being set in said reading means.

In the analogous art of optical recording media, Fan teaches a system for retrieving prerecorded information stored on an optical storage disc upon insertion into the disc drive mechanism (See Fan, col. 15, lines 17-67).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the automatic retrieval method as taught by Fan into the data retrieval system of Toh for the purpose of enhancing seamless and transparent connection/updating to increase user-friendliness and efficiency.

5. As to claims 59 and 73, Toh-Fan teach display controls means for performing control to display said related information acquired by said related-information acquisition means (the data

Art Unit: 2141

source is received at the user's multimedia computer for rendering; Toh, col. 8, line 66 – col. 9, line 18).

6. As to claims 63 and 72, Toh-Fan teach transmitting means for transmitting said information acquired by said reading means to a communication network (Toh, col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18),

wherein said transmitting means transmits an identification information of said information recording medium acquired by said reading means into said information server (in Toh, a data object having URL <File://livecd/file1.bmp HYBRID> is transmitted to the server. This file is unique to the multimedia content stored on the CD-ROM and therefore identifies the CD-ROM; Toh, col. 1, line 14 – col. 2, line 27 and col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18).

7. Claims 65, 76, 77 and 78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toh et al., US Pat. No. 6,128,652 in view of Fan et al., US Pat. No. 6,498,775 B1, and further in view of Wehmeyer, US Pat. No. 6,031,795.

8. As to claims 65, 76, 77 and 78, Toh teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Toh teaches an information acquisition apparatus, an information recording medium, and an information acquisition method, for communicating with at least one information server provided with related information related to an information recording medium through a communication network, such as the internet, comprising:

Art Unit: 2141

reading means... for... reading of information stored in said... information recording medium;

address-information acquisition means for acquiring address information... said address information indicating an address position of a homepage provided in said information server for transmitting related information related to said information recording medium, and corresponding to said information recording medium (Toh, col. 1, line 14 – col. 2, line 27 and col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18); and

related-information acquisition means for accessing said homepage through said Internet based on said address information acquired by said address-information acquisition means so that said related information related to said information recording medium can be acquired from said information server... (Toh, col. 1, line 14 – col. 2, line 27 and col. 8, line 36 – col. 9, line 18).

However, although Toh teaches seamless and transparent connection to remote data sources for automatic updating without the user's awareness (see Toh, col. 1, lines 41-63), Toh does not explicitly teach that the information retrieval from the medium by the reading means and the address-information acquisition means is automatically initiated upon the information recording medium being set in said reading means.

In the analogous art of optical recording media, Fan teaches a system for retrieving prerecorded information stored on an optical storage disc upon insertion into the disc drive mechanism (See Fan, col. 15, lines 17-67).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the automatic retrieval method as taught by Fan into

Art Unit: 2141

the data retrieval system of Toh for the purpose of enhancing seamless and transparent connection/updating to increase user-friendliness and efficiency.

However, although the system of Toh-Fan deals with multimedia content, Toh-Fan does not explicitly teach the related information acquisition means wherein said information recording medium stores at least one music and said related information includes at least one information of a list of music title, a lyric, a singer, a homepage of the singer, a lyricist, a composer, a title of the information recording medium, a picture of a jacket of the information recording medium, and a producer of the information recording medium.

In the same field of endeavor, Wehmeyer teaches a method and apparatus for programming a jukebox with information related to content on media wherein the information updated is related music titles (Wehmeyer, col. 3, line 59 – col. 4, line 21).

9. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the acquisition of related music titles as taught by Wehmeyer, into the system of Toh-Fan for the purpose of increasing the types of multimedia content updated to include music titles.

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 57, 59, 63, 65-66, 68 and 72-78 have been fully considered, but are not deemed to be persuasive.

The Applicant argues in substance that the URL (e.g. File://livecd/file1.bmp HYBRID) taught by the prior art of record is not a URL to a homepage but a URL which is translated to determine the actual homepage URL.

Art Unit: 2141

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., retrieval of a URL to a Homepage from a CD ROM) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Here, the Applicant argues that because the live server 10 must translate the URL sent by the live player 5, this URL is inadequate to teach the "address-information indicating an address position of a homepage." However, it is noted that the URL taught in the prior art (e.g. File://livecd/file1.bmp HYBRID), whether translated by the server or not, is a universal resource locator designed to indicate an address position of a homepage (e.g. HTTP://Genesis.ITL.GOV). Furthermore, it is noted that any URL's transmitted by a user to a server on a distributed network system must be at some time translated or parsed (e.g. DNS) to determine the actual location of network data.

The limitations argued by the Applicants are not essential to the scope of the prior art. The definiteness of the language employed must be analyzed, not in a vacuum, but always in light of the teachings of the prior art and of the particular application disclosure as it would be interpreted by one possessing the ordinary level of skill in the pertinent art. Insofar, the claims have been given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification and the prior art during the examination of this patent application since the applicant may then amend his claims, the thought being to reduce the possibility that after a patent is granted, the claims may be interpreted as giving broader coverage than is justified. Therefore, applicant's arguments

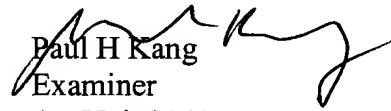


Art Unit: 2141

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul H Kang whose telephone number is (703) 308-6123. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (703) 305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

  
Paul H Kang  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2141